

City of Riverside

Building & Safety Division

Phone: (909) 826-5697



TOP 20 CODE REQUIREMENTS FOR ATTIC INSTALLATIONS OF FORCED AIR UNITS (FAU'S)

MECHANICAL

1. Installation instructions for the unit must be available for the inspection (UMC 302.1 & 304.6)
In some cases the manufacturer's installation requirements will be more specific than code.
2. Properly support and secure the unit (UMC 308)
3. Access scuttle to be the size of largest piece of equipment, but not less than 22"X 30"min. (UMC 307.3)
4. Level working platform 30"deep X 30"wide at front or service side of unit (UMC 307.3)
5. Access walkway 24" wide continuous solid flooring, 30" X 30" min. clear passageway, 20' max. from scuttle access opening (UMC 307.3)
6. Gravity venting systems to be double wall Type "B" vent material and horizontal sections (46-60 degrees from vertical) not to exceed 75% of the overall height of the vent length. Only (1) 60 degree offset is permitted. Vent offsets more than 60 degrees are not permitted. (UMC 805.1)
7. Gravity vent termination to be 1' above roof if slope of roof not greater than 6/12, steeper roofs require additional height. Termination to be 8' from vertical surfaces above roof line. All combustibles to be at least 1" from double wall vent. Overall vent height to be 5' min above vent collar of the FAU in the attic. (UMC 806)
8. Adequate combustion air to be provided to the attic area.
9. Insulated ductwork properly supported and joints properly secured (UMC 601.6.5)
Duct insulation R-value=4.2 (T-24, Section 150)
10. Generally, return air inlet can't be in the same room as the appliance or in the bathroom, kitchen or closets. (UMC 404.1)
11. Provide automatic setback thermostat. (T-24, Section 150)

ELECTRICAL

12. Switched light and receptacle near the unit with switch near attic access scuttle. (UMC 306.4)
Duplex receptacles may not be mounted facing upward.
13. Air conditioner condenser to be provided with a separate dedicated circuit and have a disconnect (fused or HACR breaker) in sight of the unit and readily accessible. (NEC 440-2, 440-14 and 220-22)
14. Identify breaker at meter panel/ proper conductor size (NEC 110-22 and Table 310-16)
15. All electrical wiring within 6' of the attic access scuttle must be secured and protected by a guard strip to prevent damage to the cable (NEC 336-6(d))
16. Retrofit smoke detectors required. Generally, all bedrooms, hallways leading to bedrooms, top of stairway, if any, require battery operated smoke detectors. (UBC 310.9.1.2)

PLUMBING

17. Condensate drain and secondary drain - 1/8" per ft min. slope with supports every 4'. On retrofit units both drains may run to the exterior. (UPC 815)
18. Gas line air test if more than 6' of new gas line piping is added. (UPC 1202.4)
19. Gas shut-off within 3' of unit (UMC 305.2 & 1312.15)
20. Gas supply flex connectors not allowed to pass through the equipment housing. (UMC 305.3)